

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-15 are pending in the present application. New claims 16 and 17 are added herein.

Claims 1-3, 5, 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Naokazu (GB2358318 A).

Claim 4, 6-7, 9-12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Naokazu in view of Moriki (U.S. 2002/0146989 A1).

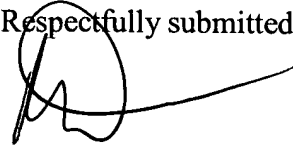
Claims 8 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Naokazu in view of Makelaet et al. (U.S. 6501967).

The Applicant has carefully considered the above cited rejections and grounds supporting same. In reply, Claim 1 has been amended in order to accentuate the novel feature of the present invention, which is a telephone having structural attributes that allow it to be used to send e-mail while the telephone is in a folded state. A review of the prior art reveals that the devices disclosed in the references must be operated in an open, unfolded state, particularly when sending mail. The present invention is contrary to this mode of operation. Here, the communication means are structurally configured such that the user can operate the communication means to send e-mail when the phone is in a folded state. Such structural attributes offer clear advantages over the devices disclosed in the prior art, where, in order to send e-mail, the folding telephone has to be opened.

It is submitted that the prior art references would not suggest to a person of ordinary skill the modifications necessary to arrive at the present invention.

Wherefore, based upon the foregoing, it is submitted that the application is in condition of allowance and a relatively early reply to this paper would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RJD', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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